Stakeholders of Lane County Coordinated Population Forecasts,

At our regional meeting in Roseburg, we received comments about our 2015 Preliminary Forecasts relative to our 2014 certified population estimates. After our meeting presentation, we adjusted the 2015 Preliminary Forecasts to become more consistent with the 2014 population estimates. As a result of this adjustment, the Proposed Forecasts include smaller populations in 2015 compared with the Preliminary Forecasts. Consequently, the demographic processes (fertility, mortality, and migration) are carried forward on smaller populations, creating a the widening gap between the Preliminary and Proposed Forecasts, for population between 2015 to 2035 for Lane County and the larger UGBs.

Below is an example illustrating this point:

**Lane County**

The 2015 population for Lane County was reduced from 364,692 in the Preliminary Forecasts to 361,564 in the Proposed Forecasts. The difference of about 3,100 is largely driven by assuming lower net in-migration (from 2,376 per year to 1,665 per year between the Preliminary and Proposed Forecasts). Note: births and deaths also changed from making this adjustment.

The 2015-2020 population difference (nearly doubling from 3,100 in 2015 to 6,500 in 2020 between the Preliminary and Proposed Forecasts) is again due to assuming lower annual average net in-migration during the period, which was reduced from 3,200 to 2,500. We believe this number is more realistic compared to the average annual net in-migration during the 2000s, which averaged around 2,250.

While we believe that the Proposed Forecasts are more in line with what we’d expect in the near-to-mid term, we are taking a closer look at the Proposed Forecasts and are planning on issuing a revised set of Proposed Forecasts during the week of April 6. Because of this delay, we are extending the 45-day review period for Lane County, which will commence when the revised Proposed Forecasts are published online.

Apologies for any inconvenience or confusion.

Respectfully,

Xiaomin Ruan
Coordinator, Oregon Population Forecast Program